

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A stackable substrate carrying tray on which a substrate is placed horizontally, comprising:

an upper contact section; and

a lower contact section,

the upper contact section contacting a first substrate carrying tray which is stacked above said substrate carrying tray and the lower contact section contacting a second substrate carrying tray which is stacked below said substrate carrying tray,

the upper and lower contact sections being formed in a shape so as to move, when the first stackable substrate carrying tray is stacked above said substrate carrying tray, the first substrate carrying tray in such a direction that a center of gravity of the first substrate carrying tray is positioned vertically above a center of gravity of said substrate carrying tray.

2. (Original) A stackable substrate carrying tray on which a substrate is placed horizontally, comprising:

an upper contact section; and

a lower contact section,

the upper contact section contacting a first substrate carrying tray which is stacked above said substrate carrying tray and the lower contact section contacting a second substrate carrying tray which is stacked below said substrate carrying tray,

the upper contact section including an upper inclined section which is inclined inwardly or outwardly in said substrate carrying tray, and

the lower contact section including a lower inclined section which has a same inclined direction as that of the upper inclined section.

3. (Original) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 2, wherein the upper and lower contact sections are disposed on a peripheral edge of the substrate carrying tray.

4. (Currently amended) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 2 ~~or~~ 3, wherein: the upper inclined section is provided entirely on an upper surface of the upper contact section, and the lower inclined section is provided entirely on a lower surface of the lower contact section.

5. (Currently amended) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 2 ~~or~~ 3, wherein: the upper inclined section is provided on a portion including an outer edge or inner edge of an upper surface of the upper contact section, and the lower inclined section is provided on a portion of the lower contact section, the portion including an edge corresponding to an edge on which the upper inclined section is disposed.

6. (Currently amended) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 2 ~~or~~ 3, wherein at least one of the upper and lower inclined sections are inclined in a plane manner.

7. (Currently amended) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 2 ~~or~~ 3, wherein at least one of the upper and lower inclined sections are inclined in such a curved manner that a gradient is downwardly moderate.

8. (Currently amended) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 2 ~~or~~ 3, wherein the upper and lower inclined sections have an identical shape at respective contact portions.

9. (Original) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein the upper and lower contact sections are different from a protrusion that engages a chuck for catching the tray.

10. (Original) The substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein:
the tray includes a protrusion that engages a chuck for catching the tray, the protrusion outwardly protruding from an outer edge surface of the peripheral edge of the tray,
the outer edge surface is formed, in a plane manner, in such a direction that becomes a vertical direction when the tray is placed horizontally, and
the upper and lower contact sections are provided inwardly from the outer edge surface.

11. (New) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein:
the upper inclined section is provided entirely on an upper surface of the upper contact section,
and
the lower inclined section is provided entirely on a lower surface of the lower contact section.

12. (New) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein:
the upper inclined section is provided on a portion including an outer edge or inner edge of an upper surface of the upper contact section, and
the lower inclined section is provided on a portion of the lower contact section, the portion including an edge corresponding to an edge on which the upper inclined section is disposed.

13. (New) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein at least one of the upper and lower inclined sections are inclined in a plane manner.

14. (New) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein at least one of the upper and lower inclined sections are inclined in such a curved manner that a gradient is downwardly moderate.

15. (New) The stackable substrate carrying tray according to claim 3, wherein the upper and lower inclined sections have an identical shape at respective contact portions.